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1	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed	g0240758.pdf	126272	no	1

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2

Information Disclosure Statement
(IDS) Filed

g0240760.pdf

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4

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3

Foreign Reference

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If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

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(*see* Khouja, col. 36, line 44 – col. 39, line 13). In the sample output beginning at col. 51 of Khouja, Khouja merely shows reporting the above discussed characteristics, such as leakage power, for a given cell. Khouja is completely silent with respect to reporting cycle-based power data. Specifically, Khouja fails to show or suggest generating summary information relating to (i) single cycle behavior of power data that comprises calculating absolute values of a peak value and a lowest value of the power data, (ii) multiple cycle behavior of power data that comprises calculating an average value of the power data across a plurality of cycles, where the power data associated with a current cycle is included with data from previous cycles in the power modeling simulation, or (iii) a multi-cycle derivative of the power data.

Bobba, as discussed above with reference to Khouja, does not show or suggest the present invention as required by amended independent claims 1, 5, and 10 of the present application. Bobba is directed to a *general overview* of techniques for estimation of supply voltage variations and high-level power estimation. In discussing power estimation, Bobba merely states that circuit-level power estimates can be obtained (*see* Bobba, section 4, first paragraph). However, Bobba provides no detail regarding such an estimate. Bobba continues by discussing power dissipated by CMOS logic gates, which can be used to estimate power dissipated by such a circuit. Again, Bobba provides no detail to such an analysis (*see* Bobba, section 4, second paragraph). At a higher level of abstraction, Bobba introduces using switched capacitance in instruction-level power estimation to estimate total power dissipation (*see* Bobba, section 4, third paragraph). Clearly, like Khouja, Bobba does not contemplate generating summary information relating to (i) single cycle behavior of power data that comprises calculating absolute values of a peak value and a lowest value of the power data, (ii) multiple cycle behavior of power data that comprises calculating an average value of the power data across a plurality of cycles, where the power data associated with a current cycle is included

with data from previous cycles in the power modeling simulation, or (iii) a multi-cycle derivative of the power data, as required by the claimed invention.

Further, the Examiner asserts that limitations of the present invention such as calculating absolute values of a peak value and a lowest value of power data are inherent to any circuit program. Applicant respectfully disagrees as such a calculation is clearly not evidenced by either of the cited prior art sources. Khouja, as discussed above, is directed to a method for power estimation caused by leakage, switching, and internal power dissipated in a design by a particular cell using information available at the gate library level. Bobba, as discussed above, is merely directed to a general overview of various techniques for estimating power dissipation. As calculating absolute values are not inherent in Khouja or Bobba, it cannot be said that such calculation is inherent to “any circuit program.”

Further, Applicant notes that there is no motivation to combine the cited references. The Examiner cannot combine prior art references to render a claimed invention obvious by merely showing that all the limitations of the claimed invention can be found in the prior art references. There must be a suggestion or motivation to combine the references within the prior art references themselves. In other words, regardless of whether prior art references can be combined, there must be an indication within the prior art references expressing desirability to combine the references. *In re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (emphasis added). Further, the present application *cannot be used as a guide* in reconstructing elements of prior art references to render the claimed invention obvious. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488 (Fed. Cir. 1991) (emphasis added).

The Examiner assumes it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine Khouja with Bobba. However, one skilled in the art would not be motivated by Khouja, which is completely silent with respect to single-cycle or multiple-cycle behavior of power data, or

with respect to a multi-cycle derivative of power data, to incorporate the teachings of Bobba without the present application as a guide. Further, Bobba is completely silent with respect to generating summary information relating to analyzing a power simulation of a microprocessor, or with respect to single-cycle or multiple-cycle behavior of power data, or to a multi-cycle derivative of power data. Without the present application as a guide, one skilled in the art would have no motivation to combine Khouja with Bobba.

In addition to providing no motivation to generate summary information, Bobba actually teaches away from the use of Khouja. Khouja clearly states that dissipated power is calculated using information available at the gate library level (*see* Khouja, abstract). Khouja provides a gate-level simulation by estimating the probabilities and the toggle rate at all nodes in the circuit (*see* Khouja, col. 7, lines 19-29). Bobba clearly states that gate-level power estimation is not a desirable method for power estimation for a number of reasons (e.g., it occurs too late in the design process, it is too expensive, etc.) (*see* Bobba, Section 4, second paragraph). Thus, there is no motivation to combine the cited references, as Bobba teaches away from the use of Khouja.

In view of the above, Khouja and Bobba, whether taken separately or in combination, (a) are not properly combinable and (b) fail to show or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claims 1, 5, and 10. Thus, independent claims 1, 5, and 10 are patentable over Khouja and Bobba. Dependent claims 2-4, 6-9, and 11-13 are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

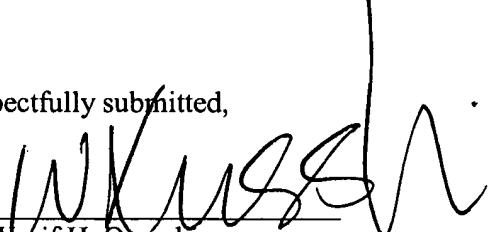
Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/073001; P5521).

Dated: October 24, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By


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